The Black Mirror News
Reflections
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VOL. 6, NO. 12 • DEC/JAN 2001-02

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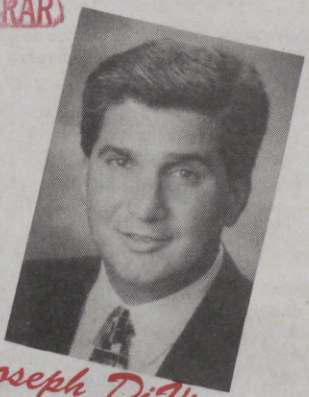

Joseph DiVincenzo
for Essex County Executive

Our Advertisers and Staff wish you the best for 2k2

— inside this issue —

RHODA SCOTT Comes Home - PAGE 14

9-11-01 A First Person Story - PAGE 11

SHADOW... Says Check Yourself - PAGE 22

To love my people shouldn't imply I hate others...
(AUTHOR UNKNOWN)

NEW JERSEY EDITION

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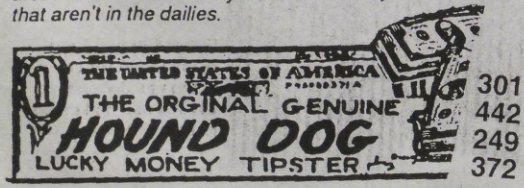

WE SHALL OVERCOME RACISM & TERRORISM...

NEVER FORGET
9·11·01

Our thoughts and prayers are with all who have been affected by the terrorist attack on our nation, especially our readers and their FRIENDS AND FAMILIES.

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"PUTTING ESSEX COUNTY FIRST"

JOSEPH DiVINCENZO for Essex County Executive

After 25 years of commitment to the Democratic Party and 7 years as Freeholder President, Joseph DiVincenzo, announced his intentions to seek the Democratic nomination for Essex County Executive. On December 3, 2001, Joe stood before a standing room only crowd in Essex County's Freeholder Chamber and asked for party unity to win back the Executive's chair.

Collectively, Joe and his supporters from throughout Essex County demonstrated strength, unity, and leadership in our Democratic Party. The theme was ***"TOGETHER***, we party leaders and elected officials can guarantee victory in 2002 and take back the position of Essex County Executive."

Our recent gubernatorial election clearly demonstrated that when the Democratic Party is united, **VICTORY** becomes a reality. Joseph DiVincenzo was a vital variable in this successful equation. His efforts to unify the party, his good government policies, and his endless contributions to our communities, make him the clear choice to lead our County government.

CALVIN WEST
Campaign Manager • 973-482-4803

Joseph DiVincenzo and guests enter the Press Conference as a throng of Press and supporters look on. (Right)

Father Ed Leahy, Headmaster at St. Benedicts Prep High School gives the opening prayer. (Left)

Newark Mayor Sharpe James, Essex County Sheriff Armando Fontoura, and Joseph DiVincenzo enjoy remarks (Right)

Verona Mayor Robert Detore Endorses Joseph DiVincenzo (Left)

Newark Mayor Sharpe James delivers a rousing endorsement for Joe D (Above)

Freeholder Patricia Sebold, Freeholder Vice President Blonnie Watson, Livingston Mayor Eleonore Cohen, and Irvington Council Member Lebby Jones stand united (Right)

Assemblyman William Payne Assemblyman Wilfredo Caraballo, Newark Council President Donald Bradley, and Newark Councilwoman-at-Large Bessie Walker endorse Joe D Left)

Essex County Sherif Armando Fontoura listens as Joseph DiVincenzo makes his remarks. (Left)

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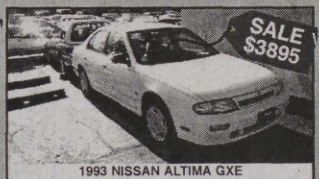

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1999 NISSAN SENTRA GXE 4DR
4-cyl, 5-spd, ps, pb, air, 56,446 miles, VIN XL091270, p-lcks, p-win, cruise, tilt, am/fm cassette, Stk. No. 8346A

1995 NISSAN MAXIMA GLE
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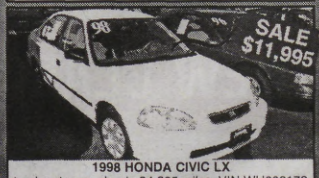
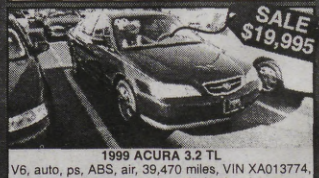


1998 HONDA CIVIC LX
4-cyl, auto, ps, pb, air, 34,295 miles, VIN WH603172, p-lcks, p-win, cruise, tilt, am/fm, dual air bags, Stk. No. 5114P

1998 NISSAN ALTIMA GXE 4DR
4-cyl, auto, ps, pb, air, 28,271 miles, VIN WC246797, p-lcks, cruise, tilt, am/fm cassette/CD player, air bag, wood dash, Stk. No. 5043P

1999 CHRYSLER 300M
w/traction control, V6, auto, ps, ABS, air, 35,600 miles, VIN XH503491, p-seat, p-lcks, p-win, cruise, tilt, leather int., p-sunroof, am/fm cassette/CD player, dual air bags, chrome whls., Stk. No. 120P



1999 ACURA 3.2 TL
V6, auto, ps, ABS, air, 39,470 miles, VIN XA013774, p-seat, p-lcks, p-win, cruise, tilt, leather int., p-sunroof, am/fm cassette, dual air bags, Alloy whls., Stk. No. 8068A

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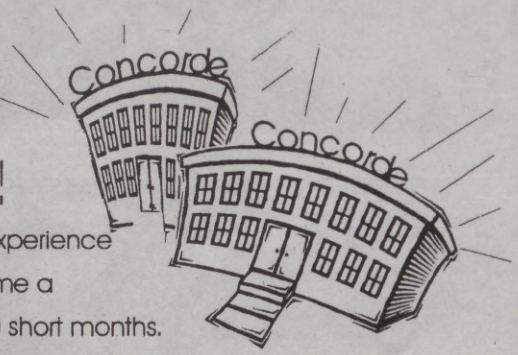

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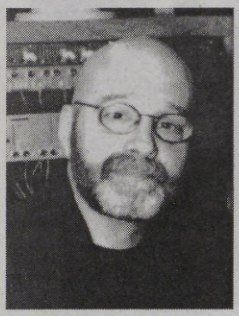

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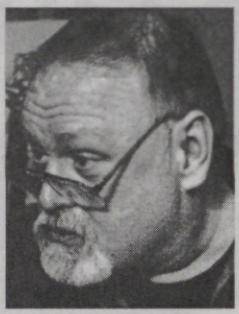

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2002

PHOTOS BY GLEN FRIESON (973) 673-9417

Strictly JAZZ!

By JOE THOMAS

Rhoda: "She's (Scott) Soul."

Some time ago I wrote an article called Rhoda: "She's (Scott) Soul." I should have known that there is no one article you can write about this artist that would come close to describing the complete talent and personal beauty (both inside and outside) of the quintessential Ms. Rhoda Scott.

I had the pleasure of listening to Ms. Scott perform at Tully Hall, Lincoln Center on Sat. night Dec. 1st. I've enjoyed Rhoda's music for over forty years. She has always impressed me as being both the present and the future simultaneously. Her music is timeless.

Rhoda has an ability that is so very rewarding to behold. When one listens to her music you have no unpaid bills, no job that you don't like but must keep, no lost love or lover. Of the latter, even when she sings "Ain't No Use"!! A blues composition declaring "It's All Over Baby," she sings it in such a way that it has a soothing effect on the listener who may be in fact, "living" the song.

Rhoda Scott has a unique approach in her style of playing. She is able to project every musical thought effortlessly. One watches in awe as she goes about the business of the facile and the complicated with equal authority. Her messages are crystal clear and her Spiritual, Gospel "roots" are obvious.

Rhoda Scott has performed throughout the world for Royalty, Heads of State other luminaries, white and blue collar workers and "everyday" people. But Rhoda Scott, being the type person she is now, and has always been, makes no distinction. She is most definitely "Down to Earth."

As I've written before. Someone, after listening to Rhoda said, "Wow, Rhoda is great," to which I respond: "Of course, that's Rhoda. She's (Scott) Soul."

Till the next time. Keep jazz alive

***JOE THOMAS**, formerly of Newark, is a saxophonist who played with Rhoda Scott and Bill Elliott over the years at places like the Key Club, Sparky J's and Rory's Torch Club.*

Special to THE BLACK MIRROR NEWS

Alicia Rangel and Howard Haughton

The daughter of Representative Charles B. Rangel of Harlem , Ms. Alma Rangel and Mr. Howard Haughton were joined in holy matrimony recently.

Ms. Rangel is an assistant producer of commercials at BBDO, the advertising agency in Newark. Mr. Haughton, 34, grew up in Teaneck, NJ, the younger son of an Army major, and is now a finance manager at Schering-Plough, the pharmaceuticals company in New Jersey.

They married in November at the Regency Hotel in New York in a traditional ceremony performed by David N. Dinkins, the former mayor. The music was by Corelli, Handel and Vivaldi. The bride wore a long, simple white dress and with it a single pearl necklace and earrings, which were made from a necklace that had been her father's first gift to her

The brid's father, Representative Charles B. Rangel, and the couple.

The 130 guests included Percy E. Sutton, the former Manhattan borough president; Basil A. Paterson, the former deputy mayor; and Theodore W. Kheel, the labor lawyer. But this was a family event, not a political one. The normally outgoing Mr. Rangel, standing in the receiving line after walking his only daughter down the aisle, was uncharacteristically quiet. He looked a bit stunned.

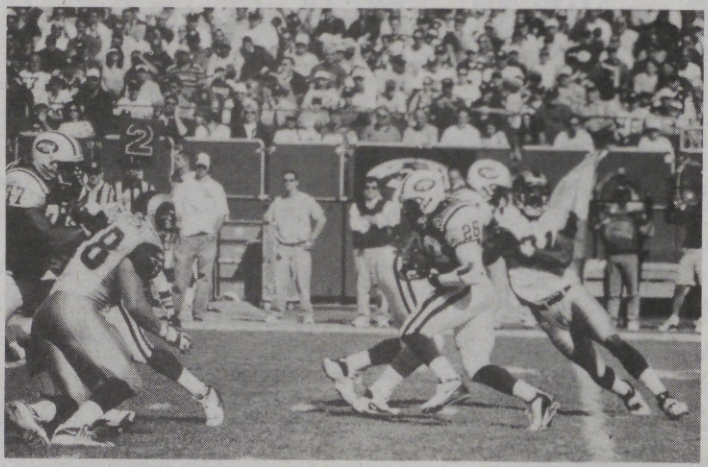
"He just gave her to somebody else," the bride's mother explained. "Now she's *his* girl."

And the bridegroom, the onetime player?

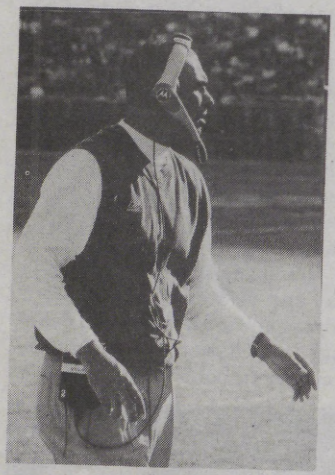
"There was a time if a beautiful woman walked into the room, he'd be the first one there," a friend said. "Now he wouldn't even notice."

JETS... JETS... JETS

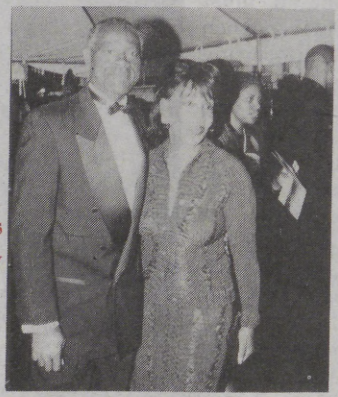
when they met those Rams from St. Louis



(Above): Ramblin' Curtis Martin goes for a 1st down!



Coach Herm Edwards looks over the action



U.S. Rep. Maxine Waters and hubby

(Above):
Samuel L. Jackson & wife

(Below):
R & B rap group, Outkast

Rev. West's Grace Reformed Baptist Church's 23rd Appreciation Awards Dinner Dance

Rev. Levin West, Calvin West, Governor James McGreevey, Mayor James and Senator Ronald Rice

Rep. Nia Gill and Mayor Sharpe James

Rev. West, Mrs. Lucas and Mrs. Williams.

Rev. Levin and Mrs. West

Rev. West, Jimmy Parrillo, Mrs. Lucas, Mrs. Williams, Steven Stalks and other honorees.

CITY NEWS

JAMES F. SPELLMAN HONORED AT NOBEL AWARDS SCHOLARSHIP DINNER

The Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders commended James F. Spellman for his courage, leadership, and for being honored at the 13th Annual Nobel Awards Scholarship Dinner, awhile ago.

In 1983, Mr. Spellman witnessed a woman being stabbed by an individual. As a result, James F. Spellman, along with two other citizens, grabbed the suspect and held him until the police arrived. Because of this event, he had a determination that people were afraid to come to Penn Station in the City of Newark and he wanted to do something to change this attitude.

Soon thereafter in 1983, he formed the Penn Station Committee that existed until 1986. This committee consisted of 20 members from major corporations in Newark, employees of the Newark Police, AMTRAC, the FBI, the New Jersey Transit Police, the Port Authority of New Jersey and New York Police, the Port Authority Public Relations personnel, hospital representatives, the Ironbound Board

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FALLING LEAVES

J. HARRY SMITH, 79
exemplary educator, college president and community activist

SMITH

He spent 20 years as president and a professor at Essex County College. He railed against teenage pregnancy and substandard housing. He had harsh words for weak leaders. He lived his life as a Republican in a city dominated by democrats. He rarely settled for the status quo and was never afraid to speak his mind.

Mr. Smith – New Jersey's first African-American college president and Maplewood's first black councilman lived a life of no compromise. He was ECC's third president, leading the county college through the rough years from 1971 to 1977 while the Newark school moved to a new location. "Dr. Smith will be sorely missed by the college community. He assumed the presidency during some difficult times and helped lead during its growth years," said current ECC President A. Zachary Yamba. "We will miss his wise counsel." Newark Mayor Sharpe James praised Mr. Smith "as an exemplary educator, college president and community activist." His advice to graduates, "What you have to do is get your oars and row your own boat." "I don't need a leader, and I hope you graduates don't need a leader."

CHARLES B. SLADE, 74
health education teacher

Mr. Slade was a health education teacher employed with the Jersey City Board of Education for 35 years before retiring. He was also a jazz drummer, who toured the United States and Europe, performing with jazz greats including Sonny Stitt and the Gloria Coleman Trio.

BOBBIE MCQUEEN, 57
Newark police officer

Mr. McQueen had been an officer with the Newark Police Department for 25 years, where he retired. He died in South Carolina, where he was employed by the Department of Corrections in Columbia, S.C.

MICHAEL A. BLASI, 80
civic leader in Irvington

Mr. Blasi, was an active member of the Irvington community, board secretary and business manager of the Irvington Board of Education for 20 years before retiring.

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AFTER HOURS

SEASON'S GREETINGS TO ALL OF OUR ADVERTISERS AND READERS!

A special shout out to **Governor Jim McGreevey** and **Dina Matos McGreevey**, on their new blessed arrival. You know, **Dina** lived in Newark's East Ward once, and we proudly call her our own (smiles)... Kudos, also to **Mr. & Mrs. Patrick**, we extend orchids to you upon the recent birth of your son **Dennis**... **Serena Evans'**, one of the most attractive ladies around, who lives in the East Ward and is employed by a bank $$... **Vanette Ryan's** one of the top people at University of Medicine & Dentry of NJ... **Oliver Brown**, general manager of **Oveters Construction** at **Robert Treat Hotel** meeting recently. He's looking good and prosperous... Folks still think that ***The Black Mirror News*** is a magazine – no! It's a midget newspaper... Glad to see **Marcia James Robinson** out about. She was spied having a "girls night out" with some local friends and a visiting **Joyce Fortson** of Stone Mountain, GA (formerly of Newark) at **Forno's** eatery in the Ironbound section of Newark. *Was that two pitchers of white Sangria, being passed around?* (smiles)... Speaking of partying, **Milton** and **Brenda Battle** gave a nice little soiree over the holidays, with all the trimmings, especially those tasty 'Mudslide drinks'... **Deirdre F. Jackson** and **Harold L. Liggins** are the proud parents of a baby boy, **Miles Ian Liggins**... Folks are talking about **Hobby's Restaurant** in the heart of Newark, NJ – one block away from where the new Arena may be built... **Nia Gill** will still be in the NJ Assembly and doing a terrific job for her constituents... **Carlton Keys**, (formerly of East Orange) living down in Florida in the lap of luxury. Owns two pieces of valuable property... Look out! One of the most eligible bachelors around is **Daniel W. Gibson Jr.**, who is a graduate of Boston College.... This columnist is on the committee, to elect **Joseph DiVincenzo** as **Essex County Executive**. We say "Lets make the position Democrat, again!"... Calling all young ladies between the age of 21-25: to become partners in the **1st Annual Black Mirror Pageant**.

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The following was written following the September 11th events. Annie Wright King, the author, lives in Newark, NJ.

Newark Resident Felt Building Sway When Plane Hit

BY ANNIE WRIGHT KING

Special to The Black Mirror News

My day began at 7:30 a.m. at 1 World Trade Center, the 110-story building with the antenna. I worked on the 62nd floor, on the north side where the first plane hit.

I had worked in the building for 22 years for the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, as the supervising nurse in the medical department.

About 8:45 a.m. I heard a loud explosion and felt the building actually swaying. I looked out the window and saw a big cloud of smoke. I called to my coworkers that we should get out of the building right away.

We immediately ran for the stairwell. As we entered the stairwell, injured people were being taken out and thousands of people were running down the stairwells in fear for their safety. We didn't know what had happened, but we sensed that it was something terribly wrong.

We were leaving the building quickly and trying to remain calm so that we could all get out of the building safely. On the way down, we were encouraged by firemen, police and other emergency personnel. Without their help, many more people would have lost their lives.

We started to realize the severity of the situation when we saw severely burned and injured people being brought down the stairs past us. Also, there were employees who, due either to illness or lack of physical fitness, were unable to continue their trek to safety and apparently lost their lives.

Smoke began to fill the stairwell, heightening our sense of urgency. I noticed at this point that most of the women were, like me, barefooted, and with no personal possessions in hand.

After what seemed about an hour, we made it to the concourse level, where the sprinkler system was on and water was everywhere. Conditions were very slippery, but we finally made it out of the building onto the street.

We were taken across the street to a safe area where we were given emergency medical treatment. While sitting there trying to catch my breath and reflect on my surroundings, I heard a scream and saw people begin to run, and the firemen and police shouted for us to run because the south tower was collapsing.

We ran for our lives. I was lucky to escape the debris, but I could not escape I the tremendous plume of dust that enveloped everything in its path, causing total darkness. I was gasping for breath, choking for air, unable to see through the concrete, dust and other substances that had once formed one of the great towers.

I really felt that I was going to die. I prayed to the Lord, "If you take me now, I am ready, but please take care of my family. As I prayed, I lost my balance and fell onto the ground. I started crawling and became disoriented. After a brief period of crawling, I heard male voices, and some good Samaritans pulled me into a building and gave me first aid.

Finally, I thought I was safe and could relax for a few minutes. But the men who rescued me said they wanted us to evacuate the building, because of fear that the north tower might collapse — and it did.

From there, I was taken to a shelter where I received assistance to get me home to New Jersey, which took over 24 hours because New York was shut down and there was no transportation in or out. I was fortunate to be able to spend the night in the shelter and was united with my family the next day.

As I reflect on that day, I realize that from the time the first plane hit my building on the north side, God was in control. He directed me to leave quickly. He knew we had an hour or less to get out of the building. He was with me on the stairwell and continued to stay with me when the building collapsed. I saw death and destruction beyond belief. When the south tower fell, I felt like this was happening to someone else, and I and everyone around me were in a state of shock and disbelief.

How could this happen? We were only trying to go to work and take care of our families. The twin towers were our livelihood. I spent 22 years in that building, taking care of Port Authority employees and developing friendships that lasted for 22 years. In a single day, terrorists destroyed 22 years of my life. They killed innocent lives. I think about all the rescue workers, firemen, police, nurses, doctors, emergency medical service workers and Port Authority police officers whom I spoke with on my way out of the building, who never made it out but who were encouraging us to make sure we made it to safety. The thousands of people who were still on the stairwell trying to get out of the building when it collapsed. The people on the floors where the planes exploded, who never had a chance. It's a nightmare that never ends.

I thank God for the lives he did save. We must pray for the victims' families, the children, all of the people who were injured, and for this country and the world. I would like to pay homage and respect to all the firemen, police, EMS, volunteers and other people who gave their lives to save others. God bless them all. I know if it were not for God's mercy, goodness and grace for me, I would not be alive today. Thank you, Lord. I love you. Thank you for the miracle.

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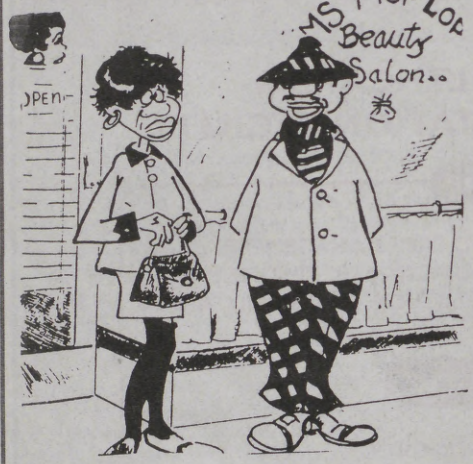

"Good grief Satramia, go back and get your money!!"

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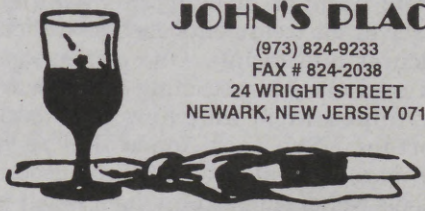

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THE SHADOW KNOWS...

Hey! The Shadow wishes everyone of you loyal readers, a great 2K2! Well, we're just marking time as the 21st century begins year #2, and of course nothing has changed... Oh, except I hear the latest thing these days are men regularly visiting the local nail salons for a little foot pampering. That's, right! Guys getting pedicures. A growing number of men are pampering themselves for treatments such as pedicures, manicures and facials. One owner says "I think men are just becoming more aware of their appearance and how that can be important." She said, "once they're here every man I've done says, "Oh my goodness, this feels wonderful.' I think men like it even better than women." *The Shadow* says, *"WHAT'S GOING ON HERE!"...*

***On* to more things**... Have you heard that the automakers are making the back seats of their luxury cars into beds? It's so if you don't keep up the payments at least you'll have a place to sleep... Note to the brothers and sisters that hang out on the street between Fabyan Pl. and So. 19th St.: check yourself! Instead of hanging out trying to work the your 'con' on unsuspecting passerbys, and little kids, try getting a JOB! Maybe, Mickey D's, Burger King or even Wendy's will give you a play. You look ridiculous... To that young lady on Maple Ave. in Irvington. You amaze me, you're barely twenty years old with two children, no job, no skill and no man. Yet, you're always able to dress well, always have a new hairdo, and is on the scene at the discos and concerts. 24/7. How do you do it? Have you got a magic wand that produces instant money, or an ability to accept a lot of wands that keep you in the mix?

See ya!

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